



## THE BATTLE OF WINCHESTER

A View and a Description of It  
by One Who Fought  
There.

### THE FIGHT WAS A MISTAKE

But One of the Hottest and  
Hardest Fought of  
the War.

Editor Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Answering a recent inquiry of some one as to the most important historical event of this country occurring in the month of September, you mention the battle of Winchester, September 19, 1862, between the armies of Generals Early and Sheridan; stating that the Confederates were defeated after one of the hottest and hardest fought battles of the war, and in this statement you are correct.

The battle of Sharpsburg was fought in September 17, 1862. It is true, and there were greater numbers engaged on each side, but its outcome was not attended with such momentous results to the Southern armies. In my opinion, nor was there such disparity in numbers of the contending forces. General Lee having 35,000 men to McClellan's 37,000, or about two to five, and losing 8,000 men, or about 23 per cent. of his command, while General Early had about 11,000 men to Sheridan's 45,000 and lost at least 3-1/2 per cent. of his entire army. This, I believe, to be strictly correct, though by some it is put at much more. I hope the day will come when the true story of that unequal conflict will be told, and fairly justice done to the men of the army of the Shenandoah Valley. When the truth is known, it will be seen to have been a most gallant stand made against overwhelming numbers by the men who had followed Jackson and had made his name great.

SOME HONEST ERRORS.

I have also recently seen a letter in the Times-Dispatch by Mr. Alexander S. Paxton, making some allusions to the battle of Winchester, in which are statements so different from my recollections of that momentous event, that I am inclined to give my version of the same. It is true, Mr. Paxton says he occupied a position where "distance lent enchantment to the view," and he might have added, produced absolute strabismus in some of the views obtained. Forty years have passed away, yet the recollections of that desperate struggle so vividly impressed upon my youthful mind will abide as long as life shall last. All Mr. Paxton says about the Shenandoah river, the beautiful valley of Virginia and its noble people, I heartily endorse. To one who has been so long a resident of the Chickamauga and James rivers, and along the "dusty roads about Richmond and Petersburg and elsewhere, the transition from Nassau plantation and unbolled corn meal for men, pine logs and hickories for fuel, and the swamp water for both, was such as seldom vouchsafed to ordinary mortals.

THE MARCH.

When that march of strategy, General Robert E. Lee, dispatched Fitz Lee's division of cavalry and Kershaw's division of infantry to the Valley of Virginia immediately after the battle of the Chickamauga, and James River, and along the "dusty roads about Richmond and Petersburg and elsewhere, the transition from Nassau plantation and unbolled corn meal for men, pine logs and hickories for fuel, and the swamp water for both, was such as seldom vouchsafed to ordinary mortals.

By this dash of Sheridan's army on our left, and a simultaneous move on our right beyond the Berryville road, the Confederate lines were bent back on each side at Culpeper, where, in two places the enemy were much nearer Winchester than ourselves. With such odds and in such a situation, there was but one thing to do, and that was to retire with as little loss as possible. To show how much the lines had been bent back, General Fitz Lee was wounded and his horse killed. The artillery at Fort Hill aided in helping us to get away, and, finally, about sundown, the town was cleared and the last Confederate army that ever entered Winchester passed out never to return.

Night fell down its sable curtain, and, concealed by its shadows, the bleeding and exhausted Confederate army, with a loss of more than one-third of its numbers, yet still defiantly made its way to Fisher's Hill, twelve miles away, a position which could be easily defended against great odds, and was there placed in battle array to await the coming of Sheridan's army, which did not arrive for several days.

IT WAS AN ERROR.

That the battle on the open plains of Winchester was a great mistake, all things considered, was apparent to all, I think. Confronted by such overwhelming odds, in a position so easily turned on either flank, the battle began with only one of the four infantry divisions on the field, the remainder from six to twelve miles away. The four-day battle line was slowly fed with men coming on the field until, about the middle of the afternoon, when the last arrived. That it was suicidal to so divide his men General Lee was said to have protested to General Early, and this error his brave life was finally sacrificed.

If the generalship leading up to the events of that day had been equal to the spirit and heroism of the men, there would have been a very different culmination, and quite another story to tell. The warlike destruction that followed in the wake of the Vandal army of the brutal

Sheridan, a blot never to be effaced, would not have occurred.

Turning from this unpleasant subject, I desire to pay a tribute to the good women of Winchester, of whom several incidents are recalled.

THIS NOBLE WOMEN; GOD BLESS THEM!

One noble woman, Miss Tillie Russell, now came to her deserved reward, sat on the battlefield all night alone, holding the head of a badly wounded soldier boy in order to save his life. Three or four years after the war, a lady I knew below Winchester told me that in search over the field, with two other ladies, two days after the battle, she found three wounded Confederate soldiers near the above-mentioned pond, so near dead that they could not move. They returned home, and procuring a cart, those ladies took the poor fellows to Winchester. It was said that when Banks's men were running through Winchester, pursued by Jackson, the ladies threw the water on them, and, rushing into the street, they, with their hands, impeded their way upon the flying enemy. Is it any wonder that General Stonewall Jackson, when dying, requested to be buried in the Valley of Virginia, among the people he loved so well and the scene of his greatest exploits?

Thus ended this memorable battle of 11,000 men with more than four times their number, driven from the field, but retiring in good order. No Confederate army of equal size had to contend with such odds as this. General Early, General Dick Taylor at Mansfield and Pleasant Hill, Hood at Franklin and Nashville, and General R. E. Lee at Sharpsburg, Petersburg, and nowhere else, and Appomattox, were forced to meet such overwhelming numbers. They battled fiercely and long to protect their homes and families. "They did not achieve success, they did more, they deserved it."

IN CONCLUSION.

Most of these men are in their graves—Rodes, Ramseur, Patton, Pegram, Gordon, Boston, Thompson, and many others. The last of the old soldiers, Early, Gordon, Payne, Peck, and others have since passed away, yet the memory of their heroic struggle will long abide in the valley they fought to defend, or where the story of their deeds is told.

"Where lofty columns proudly rise to mark the hallowed spot,  
Where ruin reigns and time profanes the grave long since forgot,  
Where eager footsteps press to pay their tribute to the great and good,  
Or where unknown they slumber on white angels' about them wait."

"Where'er the battle's wrath has raged,  
Where'er true knights have died,  
Where'er for right, men in the fight, have cast their lives aside,  
Where'er heroes dared to meet the dangers of the fray,  
Virginia's brave have found a grave to hold their sacred clay."

"But whether on the mountain top or on the flowery plain,  
The valiant keep their last long sleep, how grandly sleep the slain.  
Above their graves the sweet winds sing, a tender lullaby,  
And o'er the soul throws sweet control that hushes every sigh."

"The murmuring waters woe to sleep and still each troubled breast,  
And 'neath the sun shines brighter on the couch whereon they rest."  
Paine sets her sentries at their graves, and there with noiseless tread,  
Bright Glory's guard keeps watch and ward above Virginia's dead."

JOHN W. DANIEL.

Formerly of the 6th Virginia Cavalry.

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and beautiful workmanship and naturally we feel very proud. Our collection this season surpasses any previous effort of this old established house. Having carefully drawn from the European factories, we are in a position to offer exclusive treatments for every room in the house.

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Chronic Bronchitis and catarrh of the Bladder Cured in 12 days.

## ARTILLERY OF CONFEDERACY

Virginia Was Rich in This Part  
of the Fighting Machinery.

### NOTED "ADAMS ARTILLERY"

Virginia Furnished More Light  
Artillery Than Any State  
North or South.

In the report made by me as chairman of the History Committee of the Grand Camp of Confederate Veterans, and at the last meeting of the camp at Lynchburg, I showed:

1. That Virginia sent more light artillery to the field in the Civil War than any State of the North or South.
2. That it sent twice as much as any other of the Southern States.

Pursuing my inquiries as to the Virginia batteries, I am attempting to get a short history of each of them, of their officers and men, their guns, and their engagements. In this work, the help of my comrades, and especially those of the artillery corps.

The first battery mentioned in the list contained in the war records of the United States is the "Adams Artillery." No account of it, however, is given in the records; it is only mentioned in a few places as part of the army in West Virginia.

I did not hear of it, and in inquiring about it I found that its captain was my near neighbor and much valued friend, Captain Stephen Adams, of Lynchburg, who died September 12, 1862, but with whom I have been associated as such for many years.

The battery was after the Floyd-Wise campaign in West Virginia, converted into infantry, and served as Company A, Thirtieth Battalion, Virginia Infantry, in General C. W. Smith's division, and that capacity the company and its brave captain were highly distinguished.

The captain had his leg broken at Winchester, and he died at the hospital. I am enclosing his account of his artillery company, and wish, indeed, that I could get an account of each battery from Virginia.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. DANIEL.

At a "general muster" of the militia, of Raleigh county (now West Virginia), at the courthouse in the spring of 1861, one hundred and twenty-five men enlisted that day, and then and there, organized into a company, electing Stephen Adams, captain, who at once dismissed them to their homes, and returned to the courthouse just one week from that day, ready to march to Charleston, Kanawha county. Every man was in place on the day appointed and took up the march. They reported to General Wise, who immediately assigned them to the duty of guarding the rear of the army, then a little further down the Kanawha River. This company remained at Charleston until the army fell back to White Sulphur Springs, where their captain was assigned to the command of the position in the order to have horses and all up for service, and to have pieces of artillery that had fallen into General Wise's hands, and to drill his company for artillery service.

"READY FOR THEM."

When General Rosecrans took position on Sewell Mountain and Generals Floyd and Wise were confronting him at Meadow Bluff, the company was ordered to leave the command of the post at White Sulphur Springs and ordered at once to the front with his company and all the men at his post for duty. "Adams Artillery," as the order designated it, was assigned to the position in the order to have horses and all up for service, and to have pieces of artillery that had fallen into General Wise's hands, and to drill his company for artillery service.

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just in front of the ferry house. The next shot struck the house and two or three men, who had no doubt been left in charge of the surplus clothing of the pickets, ran from the house. The shot was in vain. No. 1, our gun, with his sponge in hand, then called out, "Piece disabled, runnion plate broken." The depression of the piece had caused too great a strain. In the meantime, Yankee sharpshooters appeared to have assembled on a point opposite and over us and were cutting up the road in a pretty lively manner. Whether our object had been accomplished or not, nothing more could be done. The horse had been left behind an immense rock where they were perfectly safe from the Yankee sharpshooters. This rock afforded a first class shelter for the men also, for a half hour or so until the darkness allowed us to limber up and get back to camp, without any damage except the temporary disability of the gun as mentioned and the indentations of the limber chest by the Yankee bullets.

A SHOT AT A HAND OF MUSIC.

Another of these guns was placed on a little flat space on the mountain side opposite the band stand in the Yankee camp. The band was a noted one, and when the gun was gotten in position, aimed and ready to fire, a beautiful piece was being played, and the man who held the instrument, not being able to put that piece was through. As soon as the band ceased the gun was fired. It may have been the last number of the programme, but any how the shell struck pretty close to the stand and the band hurried off with their instruments. During the rest of the evening we could not see what damage we did except to knock down two or three tents. The next morning the band-stand had been moved and the camp rearranged, which I suppose they concluded was less trouble than bringing up their big guns to silence our little six-pounder.

### MORE SHARP SHOOTING WITH CANNON.

Another single gun operation at Cotton Hill was more curious, and one in which we claimed some credit for our ingenuity. In falling back to White Sulphur Springs, General Wise had burned Gauley bridge behind him, but the Yankees had supplied its place with a good ferry, which they were making much use of. It occurred to General Floyd that if he could get a gun in position on a little eminence overlooking the river, he could shoot the ferry, and on which was a little level space just large enough for one gun, he could break up the use of this ferry. One of our guns was taken from its carriage, and with some oxen, harnessed from a farmer, was dragged through the woods and over rocks and gullies to this spot, and the carriage and ammunition carried by hand. Our first shot splattered the boat with water and the next struck the boat, after which it went to the bottom. The ferry suspended operations for the balance of the day, but at night, which was very dark, it commenced its trips, which continued all night. Next day the boat remained in its little cove in the bank, and we exterminated it by firing a few shots into the stream where the boat would cross, got the exact range and depression, and by the use of strong stakes and other contrivances for the wheels and trail to rest on after the rebound, we succeeded in firing in the bank, and the following night a few shots, which caused, as we could hear, a good deal of tumult among horses and cursing of the men, effectually stopped the use of the ferry in the night as well as in the day. This exploit was a triumph of military science. Practically, however, and as affecting the destiny of the Confederacy, we cannot say so much, for in a few hours the boat was running as lively as ever a little up the stream, out of our range.

This company, by this practice, which you might call sharp shooting with cannon, together with their mountain training, had a fancy for that sort of service, and upon the reorganization of the army, with Stephen Adams, Captain, William R. Terry, first lieutenant; William H. Jackson, second lieutenant; and Joseph W. Chambers, third lieutenant, joined as Company A, the Thirtieth Virginia Battalion Sharpshooters Colonel J. Lytle Clark commanding, and Peter J. Okey, major, and served in General C. Wharton's brigade, with whose history that of this company is afterwards identified, until the close of the war. They soon became accustomed to Enfield rifles, which are generally regarded as more appropriate for sharp-shooting than their former arms, but they never had the same fun with the Enfields that they had with their smooth bore six-pounders, though they hope they were more efficient.

Besides we had no list of "killed" during the short time we had the six-pounders, but a pretty heavy one afterwards, for, though we were sharpshooters, we somehow always found ourselves in the line of battle before the fight was over. Our artillery service was rendered with three smooth-bore six-pounders. We had another gun of unknown calibre, and four guns, constituted the battery. But this fourth gun, which had been cast in Charleston, Kanawha county, and no armament, was at request of General Henry A. Wise, I turned it over to him.

STEPHEN ADAMS,

Captain Adams's Artillery, afterwards Company A, Thirtieth Battalion, Virginia Infantry, Wharton's Brigade, Lynchburg, Va., November 6, 1904.

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## QUERIES and ANSWERS

### 'Captain Lamb's Address.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—1. What is the city address of Hon. John Lamb?  
2. What is the different grades and pay of the officers of the United States marine corps? By so doing you will oblige John Lamb?

A CONSTANT READER.

1. Pullen Hill, Richmond.
2. Brigadier-generals, \$5,000; colonels, \$3,500; lieutenant-colonels, \$3,000; majors, \$2,500; captains (line), \$1,800; captains (staff), \$3,000; first lieutenants, \$1,500; second lieutenants, \$1,400.

### Question of Etiquette.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—1. When calling on a friend, I was greeted by her upon entering the hall before the maid had an opportunity to take mine and my husband's card. Should I have left my cards on the tray when leaving?

2. Mrs. G. gave a card party in honor of a great friend of mine and invited me in a note which contained an apology for Mrs. G. not having called. I attended the card party and my friend left two days later. Am I expected to call upon Mrs. G., or should I wait for her to call on me?

Is it proper or even permissible for a maid when serving dinner to wait upon the host first?

1. It depends upon the degree of intimacy and informality of relationship existing between your friend and yourself. With a formal acquaintance it is customary to leave the cards.

2. Having accepted Mrs. G.'s apology and her invitation, you should call.

At a dinner party, the guest who sits at the right hand of the host is served first, the others in turn, the host and hostess last. The mistress of the house, not the hostess, is served first, at her family table, when only her husband and children are present.

### Lillian Madison.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—Will you please state when Lillian Madison was murdered—the year, month and day, and oblige.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Friday, March 18, 1893.

### Mutilated Money.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—I have a \$5 note that accidentally got about one-fourth of one end burned off. Can you tell me if it is redeemable, and if so, where to send it for that purpose?

2. Will you kindly publish in your column or under head of "Selected Poems," "The Last Mon." I have forgotten who it was by, but read it many years ago, in McCaffrey's Fifth Reader. "Electric" is the title.

1. Yes. Send to the treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C.

2. Who will send the copy?

### "Stifle" in Horses.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—Will you tell me in your column if there is such a word as "stifle" or "styfl" in referring to a horse? I can find no such word in Webster's Dictionary.

R. M. A. M.

### Postal Card Duns.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—Please answer in your next paper the following question: If I should write to a man on a postal card money to send an officer to collect said money, what would be the penalty, or is there any postal law against such use of a postal card?

A SUBSCRIBER.

A postal card with a statement of account written thereon, or a legal notice that taxes are due, or about to become due, may be transmitted in the mails when such statement or notice does not contain anything reflecting injuriously upon the conduct or character of a person, or a threat of any kind, or any other matter forbidden by law.

Section 448: "Any postal card, upon which . . . any language . . . of a threatening character, or calculated by the terms or manner or style of display and obviously intended to reflect injuriously upon the character or conduct of another may be written or printed, or otherwise impressed or apparent, are hereby declared non-mailable matter; . . . and any person who shall knowingly deposit, or cause to be deposited, for mailing or delivery, anything declared by this section to be non-mailable matter, and any person who shall knowingly take the same or cause the same to be taken from the mails, for the purpose of circulating or disposing of, or of aiding in the circulation or disposition of the same, shall, for each and every offense, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than five thousand dollars, or imprisoned at hard labor not more than five years, or both, at the discretion of the court."—Extract from Postal Laws and Regulations, Section 448.

### The Law as to Receipts.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—Please tell me the law regarding the following: When money is paid for a consideration within, in the handwriting of the payer, instead of by a receipt, is it so much money to make it legal? and oblige.

L. B. VAUGHAN & CO.

The law does not require any subscribing witnesses in the case you mention.

### Treatment of Lumpy Jaw.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—Referring to the government bulletin published by the "Bureau of Animal Industry" in the year 1892, page 409, you will find the treatment for lumpy jaw. I think after a fair trial, it is much the best that is known to veterinary surgeons. Look it up and publish it for the benefit of subscribers.

J. A. M.

The publication to which our correspondent refers is as follows:

"For a long time the only satisfactory treatment of actinomycosis, or lumpy jaw, was to remove the tumors by use of the knife. About 1885, Dr. Charles Urethi, recommended the use of iodide of potassium, given internally, as a cure for actinomycosis of the tongue. Accord called attention to this treatment in

March, 1892, having used it successfully over number of cases of the tongue disease. Norgaard, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, appears to have been the first to succeed with this treatment in the disease as it affects the jaws. In April, 1892, he treated a steer with a tumor on the jaw measuring fifteen and a half inches in circumference, from which there was an abundant purulent discharge. This steer was cured by the use of the iodide of potassium internally, and seventy-one per cent. in most of these cases, after treatment was finished, there was only a small amount of tissue to show where the tumor had been.

The iodide of potassium is given in doses of from one and a half to two and a half grains three or four times a day, dissolved in water, and administered as a drench. The dose should vary somewhat with the size of the animal and with the effects that are produced. If the dose is sufficiently large there appear signs of iodism in the course of a week or ten days. The skin becomes scaly and the hair falls out. There is catarrh of the nose and loss of appetite. When these symptoms appear the dose may be suspended for a few days and afterwards resumed by lessening the dose. The cure requires from three to six weeks' treatment. Some animals do not improve under this treatment with iodide of potassium, and these are generally the ones which show no signs of iodism.

There is no sign of improvement after five weeks, and the medicine has been given once a day dissolved in water, and administered as a drench. The dose should vary somewhat with the size of the animal and with the effects that are produced. If the dose is sufficiently large there appear signs of iodism in the course of a week or ten days. The skin becomes scaly and the hair falls out. There is catarrh of the nose and loss of appetite. When these symptoms appear the dose may be suspended for a few days and afterwards resumed by lessening the dose. The cure requires from three to six weeks' treatment. Some animals do not improve under this treatment with iodide of potassium, and these are generally the ones which show no signs of iodism.

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